



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LETITIA JAMES  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIVISION OF STATE COUNSEL  
LITIGATION BUREAU

Writer's Direct Dial: (212) 416-8528

June 18, 2020

**BY ECF and EMAIL**

Honorable Lewis A. Kaplan  
United States District Judge  
Southern District of New York  
500 Pearl Street  
New York, New York 10007-1312  
[KaplanNYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov](mailto:KaplanNYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov)

**MEMO ENDORSED**

Re: LawHQ, LLC et al v. Dopico et al., 20-cv-616 (LAK)

Dear Judge Kaplan:

Our Office represents the Defendants in the above-referenced action. Pursuant to Your Honor's Individual Practices on "Motion Rules and Procedures," we respectfully request an extension from June 23, 2020 until July 31, 2020 to respond to the Complaint and an adjournment of the conference scheduled for June 25, 2020 with the Court until after the date of the next extension.

These extensions, if granted, will permit relevant third parties, including the Administrative Board of the Courts (the "Board") and the Secretary of State for the State of New York time to finalize and publish the amendments to the New York Rule of Professional Conduct at issue – Rule 7.5(b) "Professional Notices, Letterheads, and Signs." Defendants continue to believe that these amendments will resolve the claims raised in this action without further involvement of the Court.

Defendants' April 22, 2020 letter discusses the background of the parties and the allegations. (*See* ECF 42). Since the date of that letter, the Board, comprised of the Chief Judge and the Presiding Justices of the four Appellate Divisions, has worked expeditiously to amend Rule 7.5(b) through the requisite standard procedures. The Board opened a period of public comment on the Rule 7.5 Amendments on April 17, 2020 and set a June 1, 2020 deadline. On June 9, 2020, the Board reviewed those comments and approved the proposed amendment to Part 1200 Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 7.5(b). Over the past nine days, judges from each of the four Appellate Division departments have met and approved the amended Rule 7.5(b). This step was necessary as the Rules of Professional Conduct are part of the Joint Appellate Rules.

The next step in the amendment process is for the four Presiding Justices to sign a Joint Order of the Departments of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division. This Office has been informed that this step will occur within the next couple of days. Once this administrative step has occurred, the Joint Order will be transmitted to the Secretary of State for recording and publication. Thereafter, Part 1200 Rules of Professional Conduct will be updated and eventually published on the [www.nycourts.gov](http://www.nycourts.gov).

An adjournment of the June 25, 2020 conference and an extension until July 31, 2020 should allow for the completion of this amendment process, which should ultimately resolve the issues raised in this lawsuit. This is Defendants' second request for an extension of time to respond to the Complaint and the first request concerning the Court conference. Plaintiffs have consented both to the extension and the adjournment.<sup>1</sup>

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

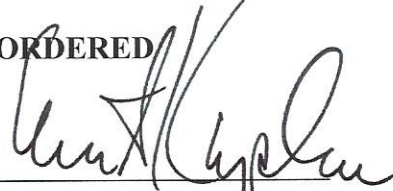
Respectfully submitted,

s/ Elizabeth A. Figueira

Elizabeth A. Figueira  
Assistant Attorney General

Conference adjourned to August 13, 2020 at 9:30 am.   
Parties to arrange teleconference with Mr Mohan

SO ORDERED

 6/19/2020  
<sup>1</sup> A stipulation signed by counsel concerning the extension has been attached as Exhibit 1.